(b) and (c) No, Sir, NOC for Scheduled Air Transport Operations is given by the Government only to the applicants who fulfil the prescribed conditions and criteria.

(d) Does not arise.

(e) Whenever any operator is found to be not following the laid down conditions or criteria, they are penalised by Directorate General of Civil Aviation (DGCA) as per shortcomings.

Development of new airports in the country

†570. SHRI PYARELAL KHANDELWAL: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is a fact that the development of airports is not keeping pace with the volume of increased air traffic in the country;

(b) whether it is also a fact that aeroplanes have to keep hovering unnecessarily upto 20 minutes before landing;

(c) if so, what is the plan of Government to reduce the air traffic jam;

(d) the details of the efforts being made to develop other airports of the country apart from those located in metropolitan cities, States-wise;

(e) whether Government are also considering constructing of new airports; and

(f) if so, the details thereof State-wise?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) No, Sir.

(b) At times, it is required to hold the aircraft in the air due to traffic congestion at Mumbai and Delhi airports during peak traffic hours.

(c) Various measures have been taken to remove the congestion at airports such as new high speed exit taxiways have been constructed at Delhi and Mumbai airports a parellel taxi track at Delhi airport, simultaneous use of both runways at Delhi and Mumbai airports during peak traffic periods, improved ATC procedures, ban on general aviation aircraft, upgradation of ATC automation systems, operation of Surface Movement Radar and Advanced Surface Movement Guidance and Control System at Delhi airport, upgradation of Instrument Landing System (ILS) to CAT-II ILS at Kolkata airport have been introduced.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.

(d) it has been decided to modernise 35 non-metro airports to world class standards in phases with focus on airside and city side development and enhancement of non-aeronautical revenue. These airports are located at Ahmedabad, Amritsar, Guwahati, Jaipur, Udaipur, Thiruvananthapuram, Lucknow, Goa, Madurai, Mangalore, Agatti, Aurangabad, Khajuraho, Rajkot, Vadodara, Bhopal, Indore, Nagpur, Vishakhapatnam, Trichy, Bhunbaneswar, Coimbatore, Patna, Port Blair, Varanasi, Agartala, Dehradun, Imphal, Ranchi, Raipur, Agra, Chandigarh, Dimapur, Jammu and Pune.

(e) and (f) Government has approved proposals for Hyderabad International Airport in Andhra Pradesh and Bangalore International Airport in Karnataka. 'in-principle' approval has also been given for a new airport at Goa. The concerned State Governments have proposed airport at Navi Mumbai and Chakn (Rajgurunagar) near Pune in Maharashtra, Pakyong in Sikkim, Chiehu near Kohima in Nagaland, Itanagar in Arunachal Pradesh, Kannur in Kerala, Halwara near Ludhiana in Punjab.

Development of Khajuraho airport

†571.SHRIMATI MAYA SINGH: Will the Minister of CIVIL AVIATION be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is fact that the land is being acquired from the State Government of Madhya Pradesh free of cost to develop Khajuraho airport and what is the quantum of land acquired so far;

(b) the status of development works like enlargement of airstrip and other construction work after acquisition of land; and

(c) whether the work has been completed, if not, by when the same is likely to be completed?

THE MINISTER OF STATE OF THE MINISTRY OF CIVIL AVIATION (SHRI PRAFUL PATEL): (a) Yes, Sir. 355.66 acres of land has already been acquired.

(b) and (c) Strengthening/extension of runway and associated works have been completed. The works relating to construction of apron to park 5 number of aircraft and construction of isolation bay are in progress and likely to be completed by July, 2007. Tender process has been initiated for construction of a new terminal building to cater to 500 passengers, car park for 300 cars etc. with expected date of completion by 18 months after award of the contract.

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†Original notice of the question was received in Hindi.